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coastal resource planning in

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The following is a list of the area businesses, civic organizations and government agencies who are participating in the development of Indiana's Coastal Zone Management Program.

Midwest Steel Corporation
Northern Indiana Public Service Company
Save the Dunes Council
Beverly Shores Residents Association
Bethlehem Steel Corporation
Steelworkers of America
WWCA Radio
Miller Residents Association
Lake Michigan Federation
Salmon Unlimited of Indiana
Indiana Conservation Council
Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company
Great Lakes Wildlife Restoration Inc.
Amoco Oil Co.
Construction Advancement Foundation
U.S. Steel Corporation
Citizens Action to Reverse Pollution
Inland Steel Corporation
Indiana Department of Natural Resources
State Highway Commission
N.W. Indiana Regional Plan Commission
Soil Conservation Service
Indiana State University
Purdue University
Ball State University
Indiana University N.W.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Indiana State Board of Health
Bank of Indiana
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Indiana Aeronautics Commission
Indiana Port Commission
Gary Department of Development and Planning
Michigan City Planning Department
Indiana Department of Commerce
Michiana Area Council of Governments
Lake County Cooperative Extension Service
Porter County Plan Commission
Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore Advisory

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The Coastal Zone Management Act

Because they offer such an attractive quality of life, this nation's coastal areas have been subjected to population growth and economic development. This rapid and often unplanned growth has resulted in increased and competing demands on the available lands and waters of the coastal zone as well as the loss of living resources, permanent and adverse changes to ecological systems, decreased open space for public use and shoreline erosion.

To effectively solve the problems of this country's coastal areas and to develop a method to deal with the increasing demands for the limited coastal resources, the United States Congress passed the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. This act declared it was time that federal dollars be used to assist and encourage coastal states to develop a management system to achieve the wise use of the land and water resources of their coastal zone. To accomplish this goal, an effective program for progressively improving the quality of life in state's coastal areas would have to be developed giving full consideration to the fundamental ecological, cultural, historic and aesthetic values as well as the needs for economic development.

With a sincere concern for the future, and considering the benefits of effective management, Indiana entered the Coastal Zone Management Program in 1975. Recognizing the vital and diversified resources of Indiana's Coastal area, Governor Otis R. Bowen, M.D. stressed the essential purpose of Indiana's CZM Program in terms of: "Achieving a balance which allows for economic expansion while maintaining the quality of the environment."

Indiana's Unique Shoreline

The various demands placed upon the limited resources of Indiana's coastline have resulted in a conflict between maintaining sufficient economic development to provide employment opportunities for a growing population and the critical need to protect the quality of the fragile environment. The needs of

urban development and those of ecological preservation are quite different and each places varying demands on the available air, water, and land resources.

Virtually all of Indiana's 43-mile coastline is already committed to either urban, industrial or preservation functions. Even though little land is available, the Lake Michigan area remains desirable for increased economic development and ecological preservation because of its valuable and unique natural resources.

The Indiana shoreline is characterized by sandy beaches, high sand dunes, forest, and numerous wetlands. The area is significant in terms of its natural history and contains diversified flora and fauna.

Together, the Indiana Dunes State Park and the developing Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore provide a major recreation and preservation area for the region and state. Boating and fishing are additional attractions of this area.

The coastal area is also valuable as an outdoor laboratory for scientific research. Henry C. Cowles developed the basic theory of plant succession in the early 1900's. His research was conducted on the Indiana Dunes and shore of Lake Michigan. Since then, the dunes complex has been used for research and teaching the principles of ecology.

One of the world's largest steel producing areas, Indiana's coastal zone is an asset to the state and national economy. The first steel producing machinery was an open hearth mill located in Gary in 1902. Ever since, the steel industries have been expanding along the Indiana shoreline of Lake Michigan. Today, steel production occupies almost one-half of the total Indiana shoreline.

Along with industrial development, the region has experienced residential and commercial growth. The pressures of urbanization on the natural resources of the region will continue as industry and the population increase.

The area composed of Lake, Porter and LaPorte Counties, had a total population of 738,709 in 1970 and is projected to be 887,000 by the year 2000, a 20% increase. Total employment in the three-county area increased from 265,300 in 1970 to 279,200 in

1973. This was a 5.2% increase. These figures show the value and growth potential of Indiana's coastal area, but also indicate problems which are common to highly urbanized areas. The subsequent conditions of over-crowding in the cities, air pollution from motor vehicles and factories, and the constant problem of how best to utilize the resources of the lake and its shore without harming the natural quality of the environment are the elements that Indiana's Coastal Zone Management Program must consider.

Indiana's First Phase of Coastal Planning

During the first year of the CZM Program in Indiana, the State Planning Services Agency conducted rigorous assignments in compiling data inventories of the coastal zone, encouraging public participation in the planning process and coordinating the coastal related projects of all affected local, state and federal agencies as well as state universities. A complete assessment of the natural features of the coastal zone and inventory of the social and economic characteristics of the area were developed. An experienced legal consultant was contracted to study and document all legal and administrative jurisdictions of the local, state and federal agencies in the three coastal counties. Also, two state universities worked to prepare mapping of the land cover and to develop a process to assess the aesthetic character of the coastal area.

In addition, the State Planning Services Agency worked to develop an effective method of communication with the coastal area public during the first year of the program. To achieve this, a public participation coordinator was appointed whose sole purpose is to create public awareness of the CZM Program. This coordinator works out of a State Planning Services Agency field office located in the coastal area.

Another major element for obtaining public input into the CZM Program was three advisory committees. A Technical Advisory Committee was developed to provide technical guidance to the program. A Citizens Advisory Committee was established to provide input reflecting the diversified interests of the private sector in the coastal area. An Elected Officials' Advisory Committee was established to assure the early partici-

pation of the local coastal area elected officials in CZM Program development. These committees hold monthly meetings and sometimes meet together to hear the progress of the CZM Program and to discuss the future direction of Indiana's coastal resource planning. Area newspapers and the CZM field office always carry information about the time and location of these meetings.

From the data inventory which was conducted during the first year and from the technical guidance and citizen input received concerning the CZM Program, a preliminary statement of the problems and issues existing in the coastal zone was developed. These identified problem areas will serve as the springboard for further research and analysis during the second and third phase of the CZM planning program. It was determined that the following areas of concern will receive primary consideration and will eventually be the foundation of a coastal management plan for Indiana:

- Economic Development
- Environmental Quality
- Shoreline Erosion and Property Damage
- Recreation and Public Access to Lake Michigan
- Ports and Transportation

Indiana's Second Phase of Planning Goals

Once the state has gathered all the basic data, it will be prepared to consider what kind of objectives should be pursued in the coastal zone and how those goals can best be reached. Many major decisions are ahead for Indiana's CZM Program during the second year of planning. While it does not specify the outcome, the Coastal Zone Management Act does ask that the state provide certain processes in achieving the decisions that will affect the resource utilization of the coastal zone. This decision-making process must provide adequate opportunities for anyone who is interested to offer comments or suggestions on which direction the management program should take. With the help of active public input, four major developmental decisions for Indiana's CZM Program will be made during the second phase.

Boundaries: The first element of any developing CZM Program is the establishment of specific boundaries for the State's coastal zone. This is an important determination because only the area within the boundaries will be subject to management by the State's program. The Act defines the coastal zone, in general terms, as "the coastal waters and the adjacent shorelands, strongly influenced by each other and in proximity to the shorelines of the several other coastal states."

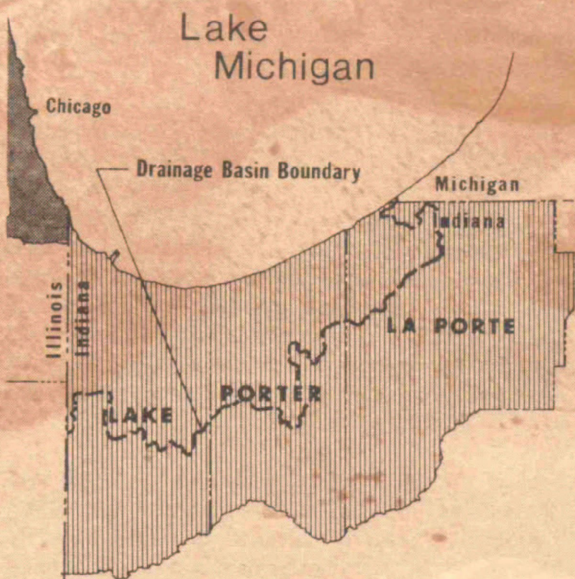
Permissible Uses: To provide effective guidance, each management program should include "a definition of what shall constitute permissible land and water uses within the coastal zone which will have a direct and significant impact on the coastal waters." Utilizing the appropriate technical data, the local and state governments will identify the level of uses which can be reasonably and safely supported by the affected coastal resource.

Priority of Uses: The local needs will serve as the primary consideration when the CZM Program sets "broad guidelines on priority of uses in particular areas, including specifically those uses of lowest priority." Together with the definition of permissible uses, these guidelines should be the basis for the regulation of land and water utilization in the coastal zone. They will aid in determining whether specific proposals for development or use of particular areas should be given priority over competing permissible uses.

Areas of Particular Concern: The Indiana CZM Program will also include "an inventory and designation of geographic areas of particular concern within the coastal zone" in their management program. Examples of such areas would be ecologically fragile or highly productive lands, open spaces, areas offering valuable recreational opportunities, areas where development would upset natural processes, areas of high natural hazard, lands which serve as buffer zones between urban tracts, areas deserving preservation or restoration and areas of high economic development potential.

The coastal area residents are encouraged to take part in these important decisions during the second year of the Indiana's CZM Program. Public hearings on

these proposed decisions will be held and many other channels for public input will be opened by the state. Once again, interested coastal citizens can consult their newspapers or the CZM field office for the time and location of the public workshops which will lead to the development of sound decisions on these important topics. Considering the benefits of careful management, Lake Michigan area residents should be encouraged to share their opinions and knowledge of the coastal resources in the effort to develop a coastal management program for the good of all Indiana citizens.



1. Which Counties are Participating?

The three Indiana Counties which border Lake Michigan -- Lake, Porter and LaPorte -- are involved in the CZM Study and representatives from all lakeshore communities have been participating in the planning program.

During the study, residents of each county will have ample opportunity to state their opinions about problems of local concern and how the coastal area can

best be managed by local and State government.

2. Who is funding the Program?

The Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 was the result of national concern about the economic and environmental health of coastal areas. It provides federal funds to help states work with citizens and their local governments to plan for the future of their coastal areas.

The funds are provided through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) of the U.S. Department of Commerce. The federal government now provides coastal states \$4 for every \$1 that they produce for the CZM Program. Local, regional and State agencies helping to conduct the CZM studies are providing the matching funds.

3. Is regulation the main purpose of the Program?

No. Balancing conservation and development is one major aspect of the program, but the program's goals are broader than that. Enhanced recreational development, tourism, economic development, as well as new fisheries resources are just a few of the positive aspects of the CZM planning. The primary thrust of the program is to use the resources of the coastal area wisely so that Indiana citizens may reap the greatest possible benefits from it for themselves and for future generations.

4. Will the plan require more permitting?

No. A major goal of the CZM Program is to coordinate all affected coastal permitting agencies. Through agreements with federal agencies and streamlining of state permitting activities the processing time should be shorter than is now required. It is not foreseen that any additional level of permitting will be instituted since this would benefit no one.

5. Where do local governments fit into the program which is being developed?

At this point in program development it is anticipated that local governments will play a large role in managing coastal areas. The general philosophy of the program is that local governments are closest to the people and their problems and therefore provide the

best form of government for resolving local issues. State level agencies will exercise some authority, however, when state interests are involved in such areas of water quality and flood plain controls.

How can you help?

Public participation is not merely invited, it is encouraged by the State Planning Services Agency. Public involvement is an integral part of the CZM Program development. When notices appear for public meetings, public hearings or workshops, take note and attend. Bring your questions, ideas, opinions and suggestions. Through these meetings and your elected leaders, the coastal area public has the opportunity to participate in this study. You can help identify the problems of the Indiana coast and ways to deal with them.

To insure that the voice of the citizens of Northwest Indiana is heard in the development of a Coastal Zone Management Program, the State Planning Services Agency opened a field office in Lake County. Alex Dremonas, a lifetime coastal area resident from Munster, Indiana was selected to head the operation of the CZM office. The field office is always well-stocked with Indiana's Coastal Zone Management Newsletter "Shorelines". Many other information materials are also available at the field office located in Merrillville. The public can request information or make an appointment with Mr. Dremonas to discuss the CZM Program Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. — 5:00 p.m. Organizations interested in a CZM presentation at their next meeting can make arrangements in advance through the field office:

CZM Field Office
Twin Towers
1000 East 80th Place
Suite 651-S
Merrillville, Indiana 46410
(219) 769-2720

This brochure was produced by the CZM staff of the:

State Planning Services Agency
143 West Market Street
3rd Floor, Harrison Building
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204
(317) 633-4346

Please Detatch Here

I would like to know how I could participate in Indiana's Coastal Zone Management Program. Please add my name to your mailing list.

Name _____
*Mailing Address _____
City _____ Indiana Zip _____

If your club, business, or neighborhood association would like to learn more about Coastal Zone Management, let us know by filling in the information below.

Name _____
Organization Represented _____
Mailing Address _____
City _____ Indiana Zip _____
Telephone Number _____

Indiana CZM Office
Twin Towers
1000 E. 80th Place, Suite 615-S
Merrillville, IN 46410

